



March 2023



The northern spotted owl, whose range extends from British Columbia all the way down to Marin County, is one of many species of owl found in JDSF. Sadly, northern spotted owl populations have declined over the past decades.  
Photo Credit: Danny Hofstadter.

## **RESEARCH: Get to Know the Northern Spotted Owl – One of JDSF’s Favorite Feathered Friends**

Facing increasing environmental challenges as well as competition from other species, the northern spotted owl is one of the most endangered residents of JDSF. Here, we take a deep dive into the history, habitat, and challenges facing the northern spotted owl to better understand one of the forest’s favorite feathered friends. CAL FIRE continues to support the study of the northern spotted owl in the forest while implementing measures to reduce the non-native barred owl population.



JDSF has become one of the best public recreation areas in Northern California and with that popularity comes increased usage and increased wear and tear on the forest trail network. JDSF is committed to ensuring the safety and sustainability of the forest's trails while also working with public stakeholders and advocacy groups.

## **RECREATION: Trail Safety, Sustainability, and Improvement on JDSF**

JDSF and surrounding public lands support the benefits of outdoor recreation, encouraging physical fitness and healthy lifestyles. Today, recreation use has, in many ways, remains unchanged. What has changed on JDSF is the increase and subsequent demand for access, usage, and improvements, particularly with the rise in popularity of mountain biking. This increase requires land managers to incorporate standardized management concepts and tools to support infrastructure. JDSF's approach to safety and sustainability require assessment and implementation of Best Management Practices, including the need to protect or minimize environmental impacts.

[Learn More About JDSF Trail Management](#)

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JDSF is a perfect testing site for communications in hard-to-reach places. Working alongside partners like Microsoft and others, the technology being developed here will provide better access to highspeed internet in remote places during emergency situations.

## **DEMONSTRATION: How is JDSF Being Used as a Test Bed for Developing Cutting-Edge Communication and Emergency Response Technology?**

When we talk about research and demonstration at Jackson Demonstration State Forest, we are usually talking about sustainable forest management, watershed restoration, and multiple use benefits. On March 1st, 2023, JDSF had the opportunity to serve a very different purpose. Representatives from [Microsoft](#), [ESRI](#) (a mapping software company), and [HyphaMesh](#) (a wireless innovation company) joined JDSF and CAL FIRE [Research and Development](#) staff in carrying out several wireless technology experiments to research, develop, and build a mobile high speed internet system for emergency response and rural internet infrastructure development.

[Learn More About This Project](#)

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The Caspar Watershed Study has been the home of collaborative research efforts for over 60 years and continues to be a living laboratory for studying the forest.

## **RESEARCH: Measuring Fog in the Forest**

The Caspar Experimental Watershed is home to all things water – including fog. The device pictured above is called a “Fog Harp” and measures the amount of fog during the summer months. This fog harp is one of many throughout the watershed to help researchers and scientists determine the effects of harvesting timber on water movement through the entire watershed – from ridge top to outlet (ocean). Learn more about the Caspar Experimental Watershed by following the link below.

[Learn More About the Caspar Experimental Watershed](#)

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



## Spring is Around the Corner and Mendocino Coast Cyclists (MCC) JDSF Trail Days Gearing Up for a Great Season of Riding

Do you love riding in the forest? Join MCC for their monthly trail days at JDSF on the first Saturday of every month. For more information including the time and location of each trail day, follow the link below to MCC website.

[Learn More about Mendocino Coast Cyclists](#)



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